

VLR-6/19/99 NRHP-10/1/99

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service
NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
REGISTRATION FORM

This form is for use in nominating or requesting determinations for individual properties and districts. See instructions in How to Complete the National Register of Historic Places Registration Form (National Register Bulletin 16A). Complete each item by marking "x" in the appropriate box or by entering the information requested. If any item does not apply to the property being documented, enter "N/A" for "not applicable." For functions, architectural classification, materials, and areas of significance, enter only categories and subcategories from the instructions. Place additional entries and narrative items on continuation sheets (NPS Form 10-900a). Use a typewriter, word processor, or computer, to complete all items.

I. Name of Property

historic name Judge Henry Wood, Jr. House

other names/site number _____ DHR File # 192-60

2. Location

street & number 105 Sixth Street N/A Not for publication
city or town Clarksville vicinity _____
state Virginia code VA county Mecklenburg code 117 zip code 23927

3. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Reservation Act of 1986, as amended, I hereby certify that this x nomination _____ request for determination of eligibility meets the documentation standards for registering properties in the National Register of Historic Places and meets the procedural and professional requirements set forth in 36 CFR Part 60. In my opinion, the property X meets _____ does not meet the National Register Criteria. I recommend that this property be considered significant _____ nationally X statewide _____ locally. (_____ See continuation sheet for additional comments.)

Mary Catherine Shuman August 23, 1999
Signature of certifying official Date
VIRGINIA DEPARTMENT OF HISTORIC RESOURCES
State or Federal agency and bureau

In my opinion, the property _____ meets _____ does not meet the National Register criteria. (_____ See continuation sheet for additional comments.)

Signature of commenting or other official Date

State or Federal agency and bureau

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4. National Park Service Certification

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I, hereby certify that this property is:

☐ entered in the National Register _____
 ☐ See continuation sheet.
☐ determined eligible for the _____
 National Register
 ☐ See continuation sheet.
☐ determined not eligible for the _____
 National Register
☐ removed from the National Register _____

☐ other (explain): _____

Signature of Keeper

Date of Action

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5. Classification

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Ownership of Property (Check as many boxes as apply)

☒ private
☐ public-local
☐ public-State
☐ public-Federal

Category of Property (Check only one box)

☒ building(s)
☐ district
☐ site
☐ structure
☐ object

Number of Resources within Property

Contributing	Noncontributing
<input type="checkbox"/> 1	<input type="checkbox"/> 0 buildings
<input type="checkbox"/> 0	<input type="checkbox"/> 0 sites
<input type="checkbox"/> 0	<input type="checkbox"/> 0 structures
<input type="checkbox"/> 0	<input type="checkbox"/> 0 objects
<input type="checkbox"/> 1	<input type="checkbox"/> 0 Total

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register ☐ 0

Name of related multiple property listing (Enter "N/A" if property is not part of a multiple property listing.)

N/A

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6. Function or Use

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Historic Functions (Enter categories from instructions)

Cat: _____ Sub: _____
 DOMESTIC single dwelling

Current Functions (Enter categories from instructions)

Cat: _____ Sub: _____
 DOMESTIC single dwelling

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7. Description

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Architectural Classification (Enter categories from instructions)

 _LATE VICTORIAN, Queen Anne_____

Materials (Enter categories from instructions)

foundation ____ brick _____
roof metal _____
walls brick _____

other ____ wood (porches and trim) _____

Narrative Description (Describe the historic and current condition of the property on one or more continuation sheets.)

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8. Statement of Significance

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Applicable National Register Criteria (Mark "x" in one or more boxes for the criteria qualifying the property for National Register listing)

- ____ A Property is associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history.
- __X__ B Property is associated with the lives of persons significant in our past.
- __X__ C Property embodies the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction or represents the work of a master, or possesses high artistic values, or represents a significant and distinguishable entity whose components lack individual distinction.
- ____ D Property has yielded, or is likely to yield information important in prehistory or history.

Criteria Considerations (Mark "X" in all the boxes that apply.)

- ☐ a owned by a religious institution or used for religious purposes.
- ☐ b removed from its original location.
- ☐ c a birthplace or a grave.
- ☐ d a cemetery.
- ☐ e a reconstructed building, object, or structure.
- ☐ f a commemorative property.
- ☐ g less than 50 years of age or achieved significance within the past 50 years.

Areas of Significance (Enter categories from instructions)

Architecture _____
Politics/Government- _____

Period of Significance ca. 1830 - 1949 _____

Significant Dates 1862-1868
ca. 1873
ca. 1880

Significant Person

(Complete if Criterion B is marked above)

Wood, Judge Henry, Jr. _____

Mahone, Major General William, CSA _____

Cultural Affiliation _____ N/A _____

Architect/Builder _____ Unknown _____

Narrative Statement of Significance (Explain the significance of the property on one or more continuation sheets.)

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9. Major Bibliographical References

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(Cite the books, articles, and other sources used in preparing this form on one or more continuation sheets.)

Previous documentation on file (NPS)

- ☐ preliminary determination of individual listing (36 CFR 67) has been requested.
- ☐ previously listed in the National Register
- ☐ previously determined eligible by the National Register
- ☐ designated a National Historic Landmark
- ☐ recorded by Historic American Buildings Survey # _____
- ☐ recorded by Historic American Engineering Record # _____

Primary Location of Additional Data

- ☒ State Historic Preservation Office
☐ Other State agency
☐ Federal agency
☐ Local government
☐ University
☐ Other

Name of repository: _____

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10. Geographical Data

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Acreage of Property Less than one acre

UTM References (Place additional UTM references on a continuation sheet)

	Zone	Easting	Northing	Zone	Easting	Northing
1	17	718220	4055820	3	_____	_____
2	_____	_____	_____	4	_____	_____

 See continuation sheet.

Verbal Boundary Description (Describe the boundaries of the property on a continuation sheet.)

Boundary Justification (Explain why the boundaries were selected on a continuation sheet.)

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11. Form Prepared By

=====

name/title John G. Zehmer, Architectural Historian and Donald S. B. Hall, Owner

organization Virginia Department of Historic Resources date April 1999

street & number 10 Courthouse Avenue telephone 804-863-1621

city or town Petersburg state VA zip code 23803

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Additional Documentation

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Submit the following items with the completed form:

Continuation Sheets

Maps

- A USGS map (7.5 or 15 minute series) indicating the property's location.
- A sketch map for historic districts and properties having large acreage or numerous resources.

Photographs

Representative black and white photographs of the property.

Additional items (Check with the SHPO or FPO for any additional items)

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Property Owner

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(Complete this item at the request of the SHPO or FPO.)

name Donald S. B. and Rebecca J. B. Hall

street & number 105 6th Street telephone 804-374-9011

city or town Clarksville state VA zip code 23927

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Paperwork Reduction Act Statement: This information is being collected for applications to the National Register of Historic Places to nominate properties for listing or determine eligibility for listing, to list properties, and to amend existing listings. Response to this request is required to obtain a benefit in accordance with the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended (16 U.S.C. 470 et seq.).

Estimated Burden Statement: Public reporting burden for this form is estimated to average 18.1 hours per response including the time for reviewing instructions, gathering and maintaining data, and completing and reviewing the form. Direct comments regarding this burden estimate or any aspect of this form to the Chief, Administrative Services Division, National Park Service, P.O. Box 37127, Washington, DC 20013-7127; and the Office of Management and Budget, Paperwork Reductions Project (1024-0018), Washington, DC 20503.

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**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
CONTINUATION SHEET**

Section 7 Page 1

Judge Henry Wood, Jr. House
Town of Clarksville
Mecklenburg County, Virginia

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Summary Description

The Judge Henry Wood, Jr., House is an imposing two-story Queen Anne house. Its cruciform plan was the result of three phases of building. The ingenuity of the evolution of the house becomes apparent only after close examination. It has brick walls and standing-seam metal roofs. The ends of the west (front) and south sections end in octagons. In the southwest angle is the entrance porch featuring turned posts and balusters and a spindle frieze. In the northwest angle is the service entrance sheltered by a two-story porch with similar posts, railings and a single-flight stair to the second floor. With the exception of service areas, the interior is uniformly finished with typical Queen Anne-Eastlake style woodwork. Window and doorcases have symmetrically molded architraves and corner blocks. Most rooms have wooden mantels with typical Eastlake reeding and roundel ornamentation. False graining survives on almost all the wooden surfaces, a rare occurrence in Virginia. The house sits on a large lot with a number of handsome trees. Other houses in the neighborhood range in age from the early 19th to the late 20th century, but many still sit in generous open space like the Wood house. The property is in good condition and has had no major alterations since it reached its final form, other than the usual changes to heating and plumbing.

Architectural Analysis

The center section of the Wood house probably was built between 1820 and 1840. All that remains are three of its four exterior two-story walls of fine uniform brick laid in Flemish bond. This was an I-house with end chimneys and presumably had a center-hall plan. It was described as being a five-room house when the property was transferred in the 1860s. As was common in ante-bellum Virginia, it can be safely assumed that there were single rooms on either side of the downstairs hall and similar rooms on the second floor with a small room between them. No woodwork survives from this first section of the house.

There were two significant additions to the original house. The first was a north wing added as a rear ell probably soon after the Wood family acquired the house in 1872. Because of its separate entrances on two levels, this may have been the first kitchen attached to the house. It houses the kitchen today. In the 1880s a south wing was added giving the house its present cruciform configuration. This south wing was built with an octagonal end. At the same time the end walls of the original structure were changed by the removal of its end chimneys and, in the case of the west end, the whole wall was taken down and replaced by an octagonal end. On the east end (now the back of the house) it is clear where bricks the width of chimney breasts on both floors were removed. The space was refilled with new brick and a window at each level. The base of the chimney still protrudes at ground level. At this same time, all the roofs were made to match with a low pitch and a wooden cornice with widely spaced brackets. Windows in both old and new walls were installed or replaced with two-

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Mecklenburg County, Virginia

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over-two plate glass sash. Most of the windows were topped with slightly projecting brick labels. The exception to the uniform sash treatment is the north wing that has wide openings housing unusual eight-over-twelve light sash.

A three-bay one-story porch featuring turned posts and balustrade and a spindle frieze defines the entrance to the house, in the southwest quadrant. The front door is placed in a slightly projecting bay on the west wall in the southwest corner. Above the double doors is a pair of windows on the second floor and the projection is topped by a brick gable which intersects the main roof and features a triangular panel of patterned brick framed by a fanciful wooden gable ornament. The two-story porch on the front (west) side of the north wing has details similar to, but slightly simpler than, the entrance porch.

The cruciform shape, acquired through its additions and final overall transformation, creates the complex plan of the house. From the front door one enters a simple entrance hall. To the right is a small demi-octagonal room that was probably a small parlor or sunroom (one window facing east, three facing south, and one west). It has lost its fireplace but otherwise is intact.

To the left of the entrance hall is the stair hall at the center of the house. It features a handsome stair rising in one long flight to the second floor. The stair balustrade has a broad handrail supported by turned balusters. It rises from an elaborate paneled newel post square in section, with a molded base, paneled shaft with bead-and-reel ornament recessed in its corners, a cornice cap detailed with reeding and small geometric raised panels, and a cone shaped finial incised with elongated petals below a turned knob. The hall has flat paneled wainscot. Under the stair at the rear of the hall a small space has been partitioned to form an unobtrusive half bath.

On the west side of the stair hall is the octagonal-ended parlor. Its floor-length windows have their original interior louvered shutters. These consist of two pairs of louvered panels covering each sash. The louvers are movable to regulate light and shade. The windows of all the rooms, except those in the service wing, retain original wooden interior shutters. The doors here, as well as in the rest of the house, are original and feature two long vertical panels over a single horizontal panel below which is a smaller pair of rectangular panels at the base. Almost all doors have the original false grained finish, as do the shutters, mantels, wainscots and the stair. The fireplace on the interior end wall features a black marble mantel with floral inlay in colored marbles and a handsome cast iron coal grate, apron, and fireplace surround.

On the east side of the stair hall is the dining room. It features wainscot like the hall. Its fireplace is a simple wooden one framed by an unadorned frieze flanked by stylized pilasters created by topping a symmetrically molded architrave with a corner block which, in turn, is topped by an abstraction of an Ionic cap. The fireplace contains a cast iron coal grate

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Judge Henry Wood, Jr. House
Town of Clarksville
Mecklenburg County, Virginia

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with ornamental cover and hood. The dining room opens into a kitchen that occupies whole ground floor of the first addition to the house. This room has its original splayed window reveals and the aforementioned 8-over-12 window sash.

On the second floor there are four bedrooms, one in each arm of the cross. The one over the parlor is very similar to the room below. It has an elaborate wooden mantel, which is in the style of the 1850s. It has a frieze with an incised elongated rectangular panel with round ends and heavy chamfered piers with incised round headed arched panels. (This is the only piece of woodwork that is inconsistent with the typical Queen Anne style finish of the rest of the house. It may have been in the early section of the house or come from some other source.) Just off the southeast corner of this, the principal bedroom, is a small room that was either a dressing room or nursery. In the north wing a small hall gives access to a bathroom, a small square bedroom, the upper level of the two-tier porch and the bedroom east of the hall. The east bedroom has a door to the hall and a fireplace with a wooden mantel. There is a final bedroom in the south wing. It has an octagonal end and a mantel similar to, but simpler than the one in the dining room.

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Judge Henry Wood, Jr. House
Town of Clarksville
Mecklenburg County, Virginia

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Summary Statement of Significance

The architectural significance of the Judge Henry Wood, Jr. house in Clarksville, Virginia derives from two disparate qualities evident in the building. First, the house is a successful and convincing example of the Queen Ann style that appears on initial inspection to be the result of a careful single building campaign. One of the original underlying qualities of the academic Queen Anne designers in Britain was to make the buildings appear to be venerable piles that evolved over long periods of time, a quality usually lacking in American examples. Second, the Wood house is in fact the product of at least three different periods of construction (albeit over only about 50 years), but generally looks as if constructed all at once. The ingenuity of its final builder in blending portions of two previous constructions into the final expansion of the house is both amazing and amusing. Residents of the house have been prominent in local, state and, in one case, national politics and government. They include members of the family of Clark Royster, the founder of Clarksville, men who were involved in building turnpikes, and railroads, agriculture, members of the Virginia General Assembly, one of the founders of the Buffalo Springs spa, lawyers, judges and the sequestered family of a Confederate general.

Historical Background

The earliest record of the land on which the subject house was built is a transaction in 1824 whereby a William Vowell, who lived there and was indebted to the William Bullock Insurance firm of Mecklenburg, sold the house for cash to John Bullock. In 1830 Bullock and his wife Susan sold the property (still occupied by Vowell) to David Shelton. In this transaction, it was noted that the property was "near" Clarksville, which had been laid out in 1818. At that time the town only ran to 4th Street (today the house sits on 6th Street). David Shelton at the time of purchase was involved with Clark Royster and others with the Petersburg and Clarksville Turnpike Company. D. Shelton was also involved with Henry Wood, Sr., and others in promoting the Roanoke Valley Railroad and formed the Buffalo Springs Company to develop a popular spa near Clarksville.

Robert Andrews purchased the property from the Sheltons in 1833. His wife was Julia Royster, daughter of Clark Royster founder of Clarksville. In 1834 Julia Royster Andrews' parents gave Julia and Robert Andrews 2¼ acres adjacent to the subject property. The Andrews owned the whole property and presumably lived there until 1860. It is unclear when the core of the present house was originally built. It may predate the Andrews, or they may have built it.

In 1860 Robert Andrews sold the property including 9 acres and "a certain house" to Joseph G. Sneed. No security was given, but Andrews would retain title until all bonds were discharged. Then began a period of confusing and almost comical of legal wrangling. In

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1862, the second year of the Civil War, Confederate general William Mahone chose Clarksville as a place he thought would prove a safe haven for his family for the duration of the war. He purchased the property from Sneed. It contained "one brick house of two story's height, one story house or smoke house, one kitchen, one cabin and one stable or barn for the sum of \$3,000...." The document also stated that he would enjoy "all products of the garden and half the potato crop." Mahone's family moved there and Mahone was there from time to time. He came there at the end of the War and moved from there to Petersburg in the fall of 1865.

During all this time, Sneed had not paid off Robert Andrews. In 1868 Sneed defaulted and the property reverted to Andrews. Mahone lost all claims on the property. He went on to be a colorful figure in the post-bellum South. He was a major figure in the rebuilding and expansion of railroads and became wealthy doing so. He unsuccessfully sought the Democratic nomination for Governor of Virginia in 1878. He was elected to the U.S. Senate in 1881. He changed to the Republican Party and again lost a race for Governor of Virginia in 1889. He died in 1895. He is remembered as a colorful if somewhat irascible character who had great, if generally unappreciated, influence on the politics of Virginia in the last quarter of the 19th century.

It should be noted that in the Andrews-Sneed-Mahone-Sneed-Andrews legal actions the house is referred to as a 5-room 2-story brick house. For this reason it is assumed that the house in which Mahone and his predecessors lived consisted of only the original center, Flemish-bond section of the present house. It can be reasonably assumed that it was still this structure that was conveyed in 1868 from Robert Andrews to William S. and Caroline Downer. Downer was an agent for the Roanoke Battery Transportation Company, which moved freight on the Roanoke River. In 1871 he purchased the "Mecklenburg Herald" (formerly known as the "Tobacco Plant"). He was at that time also editor of the Clarksville paper, "The Roanoke Valley."

In 1872 William and Caroline Downer sold the property to Dr. Richard Wood of Amelia County. Three years before Dr. Wood's daughter Mary had married Captain Henry Wood, Jr. (who, as far as is known, was not related to her). He had enlisted in the Confederate Army at 17 and rose to the rank of captain. He and Mary (Wood) Wood had a son, Cabell Sampson Wood, born in 1870. It is thought that they moved into the original house before Mary's death in 1873. In 1876 Dr. Richard Wood had a son named Warrington Wood by his second wife. Warrington Wood was, therefore, the half-brother of Mary (Wood) Wood and uncle to Cabell Sampson Wood. Henry Wood, Jr., widower, is thought to have stayed in the Clarksville house with his son. In 1878 he married Sallie L. Morton and they had six children. Henry Wood died in 1921 and Sallie M. Wood in 1928. They lived out their lives in the house. In 1890, Dr. Richard Wood (who had owned the house all the time) died and left the house to his grandson Cabell S. Wood and his son Warrington. In his will it is noted that Cabell's father lives in the

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house. In 1897 Cabell and Warrington deeded the property to Cabell's stepmother, Sallie Morton Wood. Following her death the property was left to her daughter Sallie Seddon Wood. At her death in 1970 the house was inherited by her sister, Kathryne (Wood) Turrentine who died the next year in 1971. The house then passed to her niece Anne (Wood) Crews and her husband Claude B. Crews. They sold the house in 1992 to J. D. Booan, Jr., thus ending 120 years of Wood family ownership. In 1997 Donald S. B. and Rebecca J. B. Hall, the current owners purchased the house.

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Judge Henry Wood, Jr. House
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Mecklenburg County, Virginia

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Bibliography

Amelia County records.

Blake, Nelson Morehouse. *William Mahone of Virginia: Soldier and Political Insurgent*. Richmond: Virginia Historical Society, no date.

Boydton Public Library records.

Bracey, Susan L. *Life by the Roaring Roanoke*. Richmond: Whittet and Shepperson, 1978.

Cheek, Charles D., Principal Investigator. *Phase 1b cultural Resources Investigation for the U.S. Route 58 Corridor Study (Clarksville By-pass), Mecklenburg County, Virginia*.

Claiborne, John Herbert. *Seventy-five Years in Old Virginia*. Richmond: Virginia Historical Society, no date.

Clarksville Public Library records.

Dufour, Charles L. *Nine Men in Gray*. Doubleday & Company, 1963.

Evans, Gen. Clement A. *Confederate Military History, A Library of Confederate States History in Twelve Volumes*. No date.

McConnaughey, Gibson J. *Old Homes and Buildings of Amelia County, Virginia, Vol. II*. Amelia, VA: Mid South Publishing Company, no date.

Mecklenburg County records.

Virginia Department of Historic Resources records.

Verbal Boundary Description

The Judge Henry Wood, Jr. House and lot in Clarksville are identified on the tax maps for Mecklenburg County, Virginia as parcel 147-A-07- (A) 184.

Boundary Justification

The nominated property includes the town lot associated with the Judge Henry Wood, Jr. House.

COMMONWEALTH OF VIRGINIA
DIVISION OF MINERAL RESOURCES

